

## ABSTRACT

### Include Figure 1

5 A method of providing call admission control which does not require using  
MIDCOM protocol methods, Packetcable protocols or COPS-RSVP  
approaches is described which is simple to implement, cost-effective and  
which is able to deal with particular situations such as conference calls.  
Each link in a communications network over which it is required to perform  
call admissions control is provided with a middlebox connected at each  
10 end of that link such that admissions control can be carried out at one end  
of the link. Call services are provided by Call Servers, each of which has  
access to a database containing pre-specified information about all  
middleboxes in that call server's realm. The database also has  
information about maximum bandwidths for the link associated with each  
15 middlebox. The call servers are used to keep a running tally of the  
amount of VoIP call bandwidth associated with each middlebox on the  
edge of a low-bandwidth link, and to accept or refuse calls on the basis of  
the bandwidth information on a per-call basis.